AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

What is claimed is:

1   1.   (Original) A method comprising:

2   importing environment information of a target database system into a test system, the

3   environment information comprising random sample statistics of the target database system;

4   storing the random sample statistics in a storage location; and

5   using the random sample statistics in performing query plan analysis for a given query in

6   the test system.

1   2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein importing the random sample statistics

2   comprises importing random sample statistics from a selected segment of the target database

3   system.

1   3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the target database system comprises plural

2   access modules, wherein importing the random sample statistics comprises importing the random

3   sample statistics associated with less than all of the access modules.

1   4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein importing the random sample statistics

2   comprises importing the random sample statistics associated with a randomly selected one or

3   randomly selected ones of the access modules.

1   5.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein importing the random sample statistics

2   comprises importing at least some of the following information: database name, base table

3   name, number of rows in the base table, number of indexes for the base table, minimum row

4   length in the base table, maximum row length in the base table, secondary index name, number

5   of rows in a secondary index table, and average row size of the secondary index table.

1   6.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein importing the environment information

2   comprises importing the environment information of a target database system having plural

3   access modules that manage concurrent access of plural portions of data stored in the target

4   database system.

1   7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein importing the environment information further

2   comprises importing information pertaining to a configuration of the target database system.

1   8.   (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein importing the environment information further

2   comprises importing cost-related information of the target database system.

1   9.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein importing the cost-related information

2   comprises importing information comprising at least some of the following: number of nodes in

3   the target database system, number of CPUs per node, number of access modules per node, an

4   amount of memory allocated per access module, disk access speed, and network access speed.

1   10.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising emulating, in the test

2   system, an environment of the target database system using the random sample statistics, wherein

3   performing the query plan analysis comprises performing the query plan analysis in the emulated

4   environment.

1   11.   (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein emulating the environment comprises

2   emulating the environment at one of plural emulation levels, the plural emulation levels

3   comprising a system level and a user session level.

1   12.   (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising generating a full set of statistics

2   from the random sample statistics.

1   13.   (Original) The method of claim 12, further comprising invoking an optimizer to use the

2   full set of statistics to perform the query plan analysis.

1   14.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising using an SQL DIAGNOSTIC

2   statement to identify random sample statistics to capture.

1   15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising using another SQL DIAGNOSTIC

2   statement to set random sample statistics in the storage location.

1   16.   (Original) A test system comprising:

2   an interface to receive environment information associated with a target database system,

3   the environment information comprising at least one of the following: sample statistics collected

4   from a segment of the target database system, and cost-related information pertaining to a

5   configuration of the target database system;

6   a storage system to store the environment information; and

7   an optimizer adapted to determine a query plan in response to a given query in an

8   environment based on the environment information.

1   17.   (Currently Amended) The ~~database~~ test system of claim 16, wherein the target database

2   system comprises plural access modules to manage respective portions of data stored in the target

3   database system, and wherein the sample statistics comprise sample statistics collected from less

4   than all the access modules in the target database system.

1   18.   (Original) The test system of claim 17, wherein the sample statistics comprise sample

2   statistics collected from randomly selected one or more of the access modules.

1   19.   (Original) The test system of claim 17, wherein the sample statistics comprise at least

2   some of the following information: database name, base table name, number of rows in the base

3   table, number of indexes for the base table, minimum row length in the base table, maximum row

4   length in the base table, secondary index name, number of rows in a secondary index table, and

5   average row size of the secondary index table.

1   20.   (Original) The test system of claim 17, wherein the cost-related information comprises at

2   least some of the following information: number of nodes in the target database system, number

3   of CPUs per node, number of access modules per node, an amount of memory allocated per

4   access module, disk access speed, and network access speed.

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1   21.   (Original) The test system of claim 16, the storage subsystem to store a system table

2   containing the sample statistics.

1   22.   (Original) The test system of claim 21, wherein the storage subsystem further comprises a

2   cache and a global configuration file, the test system further comprising a controller adapted to

3   load the sample statistics from the system table to one of the cache and global configuration file.

1   23.   (Original) An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions that

2   when executed cause a system to:

3   extract random sample statistics from one or more tables of the target database system;

4   and

5   store the random sample statistics in a predetermined location for importing to a test

6   system to enable emulation of an environment of the database system.

1   24.   (Original) The article of claim 23, wherein the instruction when executed cause the

2   system to present a graphical user interface having plural input elements activable by a user to

3   perform the export and import tasks.

1   25.   (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the instructions when executed cause the

2   system to issue a first SQL DIAGNOSTIC statement to the target database to extract random

3   sample statistics from a segment of the target database system.

1   26.   (Original) The article of claim 25, wherein the instructions when executed cause the

2   system to issue a second SQL DIAGNOSTIC statement to set the exported random sample

3   statistics in a storage location of a test system.

1   27.   (Original) The article of claim 24, wherein the instructions when executed cause the

2   system to:

3   present a screen displaying the random sample statistics; and

4   accept user input to edit the random sample statistics.

1   28.   (Original) The article of claim 23, wherein the instructions when executed cause the

2   system to extract cost-related information pertaining to a configuration of the target database

3   system.

1   29.   (Original) The article of claim 28, wherein the cost-related information comprises at least

2   some of the following information: number of nodes in the target database system, number of

3   CPUs per node, number of access modules per node, an amount of memory allocated per access

4   module, disk access speed, and network access speed.

1   30.   (Original) An article comprising at least one storage medium containing instructions that

2   when executed cause a system to:

3   import random sample statistics of a target database system;

4   store the random sample statistics in a storage location;

5   generate a full set of statistics from the random sample statistics; and

6   use the full set of statistics in selecting a query plan in response to a given query.

1   31.   (Original) The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions when executed cause the

2   system to invoke an optimizer to use the full set of statistics in selecting the query plan.

1   32.   (New) The test system of claim 16, further comprising a controller to emulate, in the test

2   system, an environment of the target database system based on the environment information,

3   wherein the optimizer is adapted to determine the query plan in the emulated

4   environment.

1   33.   (New) The article of claim 30, wherein the instructions when executed cause the system

2   to:

3   import cost-related information of the target database system;

4   emulate an environment of the target database system based on the random sample

5   statistics and cost-related information of the target database system,

6   wherein using the full set of statistics in selecting the query plan is performed in the

7   emulated environment.